

Deerbrook Mall called Northshire. Over 300 homes were flooded with 4–6ft of water. The roads were impassable and protected by Humble Police. First responders waved us through and immediately I could not be more proud of my city's response during the worst natural disasters to ever affect Texans. Among the piles of garbage, and stench of rot, folks had spray painted signs that said, "We love Humble Police" and "Thank you first responders". It was an overwhelming display of gratitude toward our first responders.

The City of Humble responders worked tirelessly around the clock for many days to protect its citizens. The stories following Hurricane Harvey give folks the determination to recover from the nightmare they endured that weekend.

Harvey will not defeat the City of Humble—they proved to be Texas Strong.

And that's just the way it is.

# CONGRATULATING ODLE MIDDLE SCHOOL ON WINNING THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL

## HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 5, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Odle Middle School students: Ishan Bansal, Eric He, Neil Chowdhury, Eric Liu, and Clarence Zheng for their win at the National Science Bowl (NSB), held this past April 26 to April 30 in Washington, D.C.

The Department of Energy (DOE) created the National Science Bowl in 1991 to encourage students to excel in mathematics and science, and to pursue careers in these fields. More than 290,000 students have participated in the National Science Bowl throughout its 28-year history, and more than 14,000 students compete in the NSB every year.

Coached by Rina Chowdhury with guidance from Interlake High School teacher Michael O'Bryne, the Odle Middle School team was among 48 middle schools from around the United States that competed for the national title. Winning this title is not an easy feat, and their perseverance is truly remarkable. In addition to being named the 2018 National Champions, the team's diligence and dedication earned Olde's Science Department \$1000, courtesy of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the enormous achievement of Odle Middle School and its students Ishan Bansal, Eric He, Neil Chowdhury, Eric Liu, and Clarence Zheng. Their impressive potential to thrive in a range of scientific and mathematical fields is demonstrated by their victory at the 2018 National Science Bowl, and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

# TRIBUTE TO BETSY FRANCESCHINI

## HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 5, 2018*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Betsy Franceschini as a distinguished leader in Central Florida for Hispanic Heritage Month.

Betsy Franceschini has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling, from the Catholic University of Ponce, Puerto Rico.

Since her arrival to Florida in 1985, her efforts have been focused on serving the community in the areas of cultural awareness, civic engagement, Hispanic community empowerment, advocating on issues to increase the quality of life of Latinos in the State and Nationally.

Mrs. Franceschini is currently the Senior Director of Florida and Southeast Programs and Policy for Hispanic Federation. Betsy has successfully developed and implemented HF community programs to uplift Hispanic families locally, promoting public policy advocacy and implementing innovative community programs.

She has been recognized for her work in the areas of Disaster relief and support for Hurricane Maria evacuees, civic engagement, community service, and advocacy on issues that impact Hispanics.

Previously, she held the position of Florida Director for the office of Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration, representing the Government of Puerto Rico and the million Puerto Rican residing in the State. She successfully developed partnership with 43 community organizations, agencies and entities to expand services to the community.

One of her major accomplishment was being elected as one of the Top National Latino Leaders to meet with President Obama to discuss Hispanic issues.

She has received multiple awards and recognitions. Among others: Mujer Destacada y Truinfadora in 2015, Hispanos Que Hacen La Diferencia from Telemundo, Congressional Recognition for Outstanding and Invaluable Service to the Community, Top 25 Most Influential Hispanics in Central Florida—Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Businesswomen of the Year in 2001.

Over thirty years of dedication and commitment has earned her a high level of respect, support and admiration from the community for her demonstrated leadership and public service in the State of Florida.

# PHILIP "DUANE" STEEN: 37 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TEXAS

## HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 5, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my friend, Philip "Duane" Steen, has served Texans for nearly four decades in the Texas Department of Public Safety. He is a lifetime member of what is referred to in my part of Texas as the Poe-leece. It is an informal organization made up of my long-time friends in the Texas law enforcement community.

No stone in Texas has been left unturned during his decorated career. From the hills of San Antonio to the flat lands of Houston, he has helped Texans feel safe and secure by defending and upholding the law. His service to the state and to Houston will withstand time. It is an honor to pay tribute to him today as he retires from public service.

Duane graduated from Texas A&M with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science before beginning his valorous career with the Texas De-

partment of Public Safety (DPS). His career aspirations began when car trouble led to a ride-along with a DPS trooper as a student at A&M. The two got along like old friends, and you might say that was the straw that broke the camel's back. In 1981, Duane officially began his career serving the people of Texas. His first assignment was in Denton as a Highway Patrol Trooper.

During his nearly four decade tenure, Duane served the people of Texas through various positions in the DPS. He served as Narcotics Sergeant, Austin; Narcotics Lieutenant, Waco; Narcotics Captain, Garland and Austin, and Narcotics Assistant Commander, San Antonio and Austin. In the last decade of his career he served in Austin as Major, Criminal Investigations Division, later promoted to Deputy Assistant Director, and finally as Region 2 Commander, Houston.

From speeding tickets and drunk drivers to full scale narcotics operations, he was up against some of the roughest and toughest that Texas had to offer. Through it all, he never stopped trying to make the Lone Star state a safer place. He was the type of guy that you wanted on your side because he would not stop until the job was done right.

The impact he had on Texans, Houstonians, and the thin blue line will continue to be an example for generations to come. He may have handed in his badge, but his legacy lives on. His family can rest easy now knowing the most dangerous activity he will be doing is spending most days out on the water with his fishing pole.

Happy Trails to you, Duane. Thank you for a job well done and for all your hard work to make our Texas a safer place.

And that is just the way it is.

# IN MEMORY OF MR. WELDON BURGOON

## HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 5, 2018*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Mr. Charles Weldon Burgoon. A lifelong cowboy, dedicated volunteer, and local businessman, Mr. Burgoon recently passed away at the age of 88.

A beloved member of the community, Mr. Burgoon was the owner of Weldon's Saddle Shop and Western Wear where he sold belts, saddles, and other handmade leather accessories until he retired in January of 2017.

Mr. Burgoon grew up in Denton County and began riding horses when he was just three years old. He began training Shetland ponies as a child, and joined and competed in many rodeos across Texas until 1992. He and his wife Joy met as students at Denton High School, and were married in Green Valley, Texas in 1950.

Throughout his life, Mr. Burgoon dedicated much of his time to serving his fellow North Texans. Even after his retirement, Mr. Burgoon continued to dedicate his time to the youth of Denton County. He served on numerous organizations in Denton including the Denton County Livestock Association and Youth Fair, North Texas High School Rodeo Association, United Way of Denton County,